IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of the claims is set forth below. Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Previously Presented)** A computer-implemented method for generating a price schedule for one or more products, the method comprising:

generating, by a server, a transition graph comprising a plurality of stages, each stage representing a time interval and comprising one or more states and a plurality of paths, each path comprising a plurality of states, the plurality of states having at least one predecessor state that is coupled to at least one successor state by a transition, each state having a price value, an inventory value, and a state value, wherein the transition graph is generated by repeating the following for the plurality of stages until a final stage is reached:

determining the price value of a successor state;

calculating the inventory value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of a predecessor state; and

calculating the state value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of the predecessor state;

selecting, by the server, a path of the plurality of paths according to the state values of the one or more states;

determining, by the server, a price schedule from the selected path; and

outputting, by the server, the price schedule to one or more computers associated with one or more entities.

2-3. **(Canceled)**

4. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 1, wherein selecting the path according to the state values comprises:

determining a state at the final stage having a state value; and

determining a path comprising a state of an initial stage and the state having the state value.

5. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising eliminating a successor state in response to a constraint.

6. **(Withdrawn)** The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

computing an elasticity curve; and

computing the inventory value of each successor state using the elasticity curve.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 1, wherein:

each state has a certainty value; and

selecting the path comprises determining a state at the final stage having a certainty value of a predetermined value.

8. **(Canceled)**

9. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-implemented system for generating a price schedule for one or more products, the system comprising:

a server system coupled with one or more entities, the server system comprising:

a transition graph generator configured to generate a transition graph comprising:

a plurality of stages, each stage representing a time interval and comprising one or more states;

a plurality of paths, each path coupling a sequence of the one or more states such that at least one predecessor state is coupled to at least one successor state by a transition, ~~transisiton,~~ each state having a price value, an inventory value, and a state value, the transition graph generator configured to generate the transition graph by repeating the following for the plurality of stages until a final stage is reached:

determining the price value of a successor state;

calculating the inventory value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of a predecessor state; and

calculating the state value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of the predecessor state; and

an optimizer coupled with the transition graph generator, the optimizer configured to:

select a path of the plurality of paths according to the state values of the one or more states; and

determine a price schedule from the selected path,

wherein the server system is further configured to output the price schedule to one or more computers associated with the one or more entities.

10-11. **(Canceled)**

12. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 9, wherein the optimizer is configured to select the path according to the state values by:

determining a state at the final stage having a state value; and

determining a path comprising a state of an initial stage and the state having the state value.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 9, wherein the transition graph generator is configured to eliminate a successor state in response to a constraint.

14. **(Canceled)**

15. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 9, wherein:

each state has a certainty value; and

the optimizer is configured to select the path by determining a state at the final stage having a certainty value of a predetermined value.

16. **(Canceled)**

17. **(Previously Presented)** A computer-readable storage medium embodied with software for generating a price schedule for one or more products, the software when executed using one or more computers is configured to:

generate a transition graph comprising a plurality of stages, each stage representing a time interval and comprising one or more states and a plurality of paths, each path comprising a plurality of states, the plurality of states having at least one predecessor state that is coupled to at least one successor state by a transition, each state having a price value, an inventory value, and a state value, wherein the transition graph is generated by repeating the following for the plurality of stages until a final stage is reached:

determining the price value of a successor state;

calculating the inventory value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of a predecessor state; and

calculating the state value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of the predecessor state;

select a path of the plurality of paths according to the state values of the one or more states;

determine a price schedule from the selected path; and

outputting, the price schedule to one or more computers associated with one or more entities.

18-19. **(Canceled)**

20. **(Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 17, wherein the software is further configured to select the optimal path according to the state values by:

determining a state at the final stage having a state value; and

determining a path comprising a state of an initial stage and the state having the state value.

21. **(Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 17, wherein the software is further configured to eliminate a successor state in response to a constraint.

22. **(Canceled)**

23. **(Previously Presented)** The computer-readable storage medium of Claim 17, wherein:

each state has a certainty value; and

wherein the software is further configured to select the path by determining a state at the final stage having a certainty value of a predetermined value.

24. **(Canceled)**

25. **(Previously Presented)** A computer-implemented system for generating a price schedule for one or more products, the system comprising:

a server system coupled with one or more entities, the server system comprising:

means for generating a transition graph comprising a plurality of stages, each stage representing a time interval and comprising one or more states and a plurality of paths, each path comprising a plurality of states, the plurality of states having at least one predecessor state that is coupled to at least one successor state by a transition, each state having a price value, an inventory value, and a state value, wherein the transition graph is generated by repeating the following for the plurality of stages until a final stage is reached:

determining the price value of a successor state;

calculating the inventory value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of a predecessor state; and

calculating the state value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of the predecessor state; and

means for selecting a path of the plurality of paths according to the one or more state values of the states, for determining a price schedule from the selected path, and for outputting the price schedule to one or more computers associated with one or more entities.

26. **(Withdrawn)** A method for generating a price schedule, comprising:

generating a transition graph comprising a plurality of paths, each path comprising a plurality of states, each state having a price value, an inventory value, and a state value, the transition graph being generated by repeating the following for a plurality of stages until a final stage is reached:

computing an elasticity curve;

determining the price value of a successor state;

calculating the inventory value of the successor state using the elasticity curve, the price value, and the inventory value of a predecessor state;

adjusting the inventory value of the successor state by defining a plurality of locations, calculating an expected number of unrealized sales at each location, and adjusting the inventory value of the successor state in response to the expected number;

quantizing the inventory value and the price value of the successor state; and

calculating the state value of the successor state using the price value and the inventory value of the predecessor state;

selecting an optimal path according to the state values of the states by determining a state at the final stage having an optimal state value and determining a path comprising a state of an initial stage and the state having the optimal state value; and

determining a price schedule from the optimal path.

27-71. **(Canceled)**